



News for Immediate Release  
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**Jones Tract Pumping to Last into December**

SACRAMENTO – Department of Water Resources (DWR) officials report that the Jones Tract floodwater pumpout project will continue into December.

As of November 15, 2004, the water level had been lowered from 1.5 feet above sea level to approximately 12.4 feet below sea level. But, while water on Upper Jones is nearing field level, water on Lower Jones Tract is proving to be three to five feet deeper than expected. Based on the deeper elevation of the western half of Lower Jones, pumpout completion is now expected in mid December.

The 19-square mile tract 10 miles west of Stockton was inundated June 3 when part of the levee protecting Upper Jones Tract unexpectedly gave way. When pumpout operations began July 12, approximately 140,000 acre feet of water covered the 12,000 acre island to an average depth of about 12 feet.

The cause of the levee failure will likely remain unknown.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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